CROSSWORD No 16,769 Set by SLORMGORM

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JOTTER PAD

ACROSS

- 1 Planes travelling for city abroad (6)
- After new treatment, get fit or don't worry? (6,2)
- 9 Idiot grabbing soprano for a dance (5)
- Smalls less than flipping fresh, earl admitted (9)
- 11 Country school visited by son near lowa (7)
- Nonsense leads to amusement with some chortles (7)
- They see supportive people, I'm told (4)
- 14 Put down drink, getting squash (8)
- 17 Nurse into drinks such as whisky cuts back (8)
- Piece of wood placed around new pine (4)
- Spirit one's seen in foreign sea is more odd (7)
- In hearing, bring forth criminal (7)
- Blair mostly gets behind poor minister for sport (9)
- Launch sailor parked in vacant spot (5)
- 27 Pop album by Beyoncé? (8)
- I shoot Bow revolutionary in a railcar on vacation (6)

DOWN

- 1 One likely to release rabbit? (8)
- A waste of time to go out, so slept in! (9)
- Radiators etc not hot? That's worrying! (6)
- **5** A benefit of one's golden years? (3,3,7)
- Blunder housing Iranian leader with Republican beast (7)
- Some absinthe tantalises Greek character (5)
- Singer making you a hit time and again? (6)
- A French Blue European judged uncut (13)
- Son depressed on train, one crawling along? (9)
- One stirring goat and rat stew that I must tuck into! (8)
- Good to cut into veggie? That's one point of view! (7)
- Bishop in court case showing loyalty to his people? (6)
- Conservative (one who didn't win) is more dense (6)
- Setting on medium-sized computer peripheral (5)